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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/518,996	12/21/2004	Shaily Verma	PU020307	7008
24498	7590	03/14/2008	EXAMINER	
Joseph J. Laks			MEHRPOUR, NAGHMEH	
Thomson Licensing LLC			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2 Independence Way, Patent Operations				2617
PO Box 5312				
PRINCETON, NJ 08543				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/14/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/518,996	VERMA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	MELODY MEHRPOUR	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 February 2008.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-2, 5-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/11/08 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1-2, 5-11, 13-14, 16, 18,** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sundar et al. (US Publication 2003/0134638 A1).

Regarding claims 1, 11, Sundar teaches a method/method for registering a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) as a cellular network routing area (0054), comprising the steps of:

determining a location of a service request from a user within a cellular network **which comprises a packet-based node** (0055, 0056, 0058);
determining whether the location is in or near a WLAN access point (0066);
if at or near the WLAN access point, maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context while servicing the request using the WLAN such that interworking between the WLAN and the cellular network is provided (0065, 0057, 0067).

Regarding claims 5, 14, Sundar teaches a method/system further comprising the step of setting a periodic routing area update timer value while in a WLAN coverage area to reduce signaling while a user is in the WLAN area (0063).

Regarding claim 6, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing packet switched signaling connection through the PDP context when existing the WLAN (0056, 0071).

Regarding claims 7, 10, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of :
controlling the loading of cellular cells by shifting user traffic service to WLANs (0055, 0056).

Regarding claim 8, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the interworking between the cellular network and the WLAN is provided by: uniquely identifying the WLAN as a routing area of the cellular network; and once identified, setting a routing area update timer to reduce a number of routing area updates to the cellular network (0071, 0092).

Regarding claim 9, 15, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of maintaining the PDP context includes maintaining the PDP context to reduce handoff delay while re-entering the UMTS network (0056, 0071).

Regarding claim 10, Sundar teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling cellular service providers to control the loading of cells by shifting users to WLANs by changing routing area identifiers of the users to that of a WLAN coverage area (0014, 0071, 0092).

Regarding claim 13, Sundar teaches a system as recited in claim 11, further comprising a unique routing area identifier, which identifies the WLAN in the cellular network (0095).

Regarding claim 16, Sundar teaches a system as recited in claim 11, wherein the cellular network includes a Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS) (0098).

Regarding claim 18, Sundar teaches a system as recited in claim 11, wherein the cellular network learns if a user is in a WLAN coverage area via a routing area identifier (RAI) update message (0020-0027).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 12, 15, 17,** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sundar et al. (US Publication 2003/0134638 A1) in view of Das et al. (US Publication 2004/0203765 A1).

Regarding claim 12, Sundar does not mention the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context while servicing the request using the WLAN includes restricting radio signaling between a user and the cellular network while using the WLAN. However, Son teaches the method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context while servicing the

request using the WLAN includes restricting radio signaling between a user and the cellular network while using the WLAN (0018, 0035). Therefore, it would have been obvious to ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the above teaching of Das with Sundar, in order to provide support for the movement of IP mobile.

Regarding claim 15, Sundar fails to teach a system comprising: an interworking function for establishing and maintaining user services between the WLAN and the cellular network. However, Das teaches a system comprising an interworking function for establishing and maintaining user services between the WLAN and the cellular network (0018, 0098). Therefore, it would have been obvious to ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the above teaching of Das with Sundar, in order to provide support for the movement of IP mobile.

Regarding claim 17, Sundar fails to teach a system wherein the means for maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context further comprises a Radio Access Bearer (RAB) setup procedure for establishing interworking between the cellular network and the WLAN. However, Das teaches a system wherein the means for maintaining packet data protocol (PDP) context further comprises a Radio Access Bearer (RAB) setup procedure for establishing interworking between the cellular network and the WLAN (0018, 0035). Therefore, it would have been obvious to ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to combine the above teaching of Das with Sundar, in order to provide support for the movement of IP mobile.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 5-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. **Any responses to this action should be mailed to:**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MELODY MEHRPOUR whose telephone number is 5(571)272-791313. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah be reached (571) 272-7904.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through

Application/Control Number:
10/518,996
Art Unit: 2617

Page 8

h Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Naghmeh Mehrpour/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/M. M./

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617NM

Feb 27, 2008